

**Remarks**

Claims 37-62 are pending. Claims 37-62 been added. Claims 1-36 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of any of the canceled claims in one or more divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part applications.

The subject matter encompassed by the new claims is disclosed by the instant specification. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

**The Restriction Requirement**

In the Office Action, restriction is required to one of the following groups of invention:

- I) Claims 23-28 and 35, drawn to the technical feature of a peptide carrier conjugate comprising an OMPC and a plurality of modified peptides;
- II) Claims, 1-22 and 31-34, drawn to the technical feature of a method for making a peptide conjugate comprising OMPC and peptides;
- III) Claims 29-30, drawn to the technical feature of a method of inducing an immune response in a mammal using the product of Group I; and
- IV) Claim 36, drawn to the technical feature of a method for determining the favorable pI range for conjugation of peptides to a carrier; and

In order to be fully responsive, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II (claims 1-22 and 31-34), to prosecute in the present application without prejudice to prosecution of the subject matter of the non-elected groups in subsequent applications.

Additionally, the Examiner has required an election of species should Group II be elected. Accordingly, Applicants elect the following species:

- i) Haemophilus influenza as the pathogen;

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- ii) sSMCC as the reagent for conjugation; and
- iii) OMPC as the carrier.

### **Conclusion**

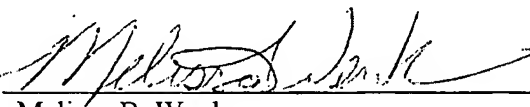
It is believed that the claims now pending are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is earnestly requested.

### **Authorization**

No fee is believed to be due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to deposit account 13-2755.

Respectfully submitted,

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